

# FORTUNE'S FROLIC, &c.



the Wonderful and Comical **MAR-**  
**RIAGE** of the Young Edinburgh Lassie  
 of 18, who went to the harvest, being  
 out of place, to an Auld Farmer of 70,  
 with their Courtship and Wedding, shew-  
 ing the awful fright they got by his first  
 wife's ghost, who appeared first to the  
 cottagers, and then to the married  
 couple while in bed, and how it was dis-  
 covered to be a man, which happened  
 three miles south of Edinburgh, in Sept.  
 last; told by one of the shearers.

(PRICE ONE PENNY.)

# FORTUNE'S FROLIC

OR,

## *The Comical Marriage.*

A few nights ago, having occasion to waiting at the bottom of one of those close which lead from the High Street to the Cowgate, I was entertained by a very curious dialogue which took place between two women, who as near as I could reckon might have reached the age of fifty.

The night was dark, and a chill was pervading, obliged them to keep in the side of the colse, while I, in order to ascertain the subject on which they were about to enter, concealed myself within the foot of a stair, so nigh to the place where they stood, that I could hear distinctly every word that passed.

How's a' wi' ye the night, Nell, said one  
 them to the other, there's a cauld night  
 Nell. Aye Jean its no very warm, was  
 out at the port the day?—Jean. O aye,  
 ned out this morning, to see what was  
 on, and what d'ye think they had the  
 e to offer us.—Nell. I kenna maybe  
 nteen pence.—Jean. Aughteen pence!  
 said they wad gee us nae mair then  
 pence, to gang ~~sax~~ mile o' gait, and  
 beds for ourselfs.—Nell. The rogues  
 are! I wonder ye didna misca' them  
 —Jean.—They didna miss mony an  
 name at ony rate; and I said I wadna  
 rk for that wage, though I should die  
 next moment wi' hunger.

NE. L.—By my troth ye was very night;  
 hae ye no been shearing this year yet?  
 Jean. Aye was I; I was out a month,  
 out three mile out o' the town cutting  
 ear, and made a very gude job o' t, and  
 sae gude as some too for a young  
 lassie, they ca' Jessie has gotten a man  
 —Nell.—A man? and d'ye ca' that a  
 da job? There's mony a aye runs a hea



days that ever they had ony thing ado a man.—Jean, It's very true that, but sure she'll never rue't, she gaed out like ony o' the rest o' us, but now she's a farmer's wife.

O its a braw thing to be married to can a nice carle as you; an' weel she serves him, for she's as trig a wench as ye see only about eighteen years auld divil widowers tak' sic young lassies to be wi' whan they cou'd get sae mony like ours wha's had experience in a house, but h ever we gat some grand sport at the w din'.—Nell. Come let's hear a' about I'se warrant ye it wad be a braw night.

JEAN.—Weel ye see, I gaed out this month to the port, to see give I could a job; so I hadna been lang there, wh in cam an auld tough looking body am us, wi' a young strapping quean o' daughter, wi' a heuk out ower her shout for the first time; an' it was a pity to sic a genteel lookin' lassie gann to Hairst Rigg; for she had been in a pla



lower bye i' the new town, an' wasna used  
 to sic coarse wark; so to mak' a lang story  
 short, we was hired by the same master, a  
 stout looking man, wha seemed to hae a no-  
 tion o' the auld wife's daughter, for he  
 keepit speakin' till her a' the road out. At  
 last we got to the field and fell a wark and  
 heth Jessie did wonderfu' weel considering,  
 an' the farmer keepit walkin about aside he  
 frae morning to night, and often took her  
 and her mother into the house, and gied  
 them mony a gude four hours, and mony  
 a lang crack him and the auld wife had by  
 their lanes; but it wasna for naething he  
 was doin' a' this; he had married when he  
 was callant, and his wife died about sax  
 months ago, and he thought this was a fine  
 opportunity to get another; for he was  
 turnin' tired o' lyin' his lane, and hethought  
 that Jessie wad just answer his purpose;  
 so at last he had gotten the auld wife's con-  
 sent, and tell't us that he was to mak' a  
 waddin' o' t and that we was a' to gang to  
 a supper the neist night. Awa' he came  
 unto the town the neist day wi' Jessie to  
 buy her some braws to put on at the wad-

din', an' my word he didna mak' a fool  
 her; a gown that might hae pleased  
 duchess, an' a plaid that wad hae dazzle  
 your een to look at it; a bannet that ma-  
 ner a head bigger than what she was wi-  
 out it and a mutch that wad tak' a bod-  
 twa' or three days to sew't. Weel, nig-  
 came, and we quat wark sooner than o-  
 dinary, and cleaned ourselfs and sat dow-  
 in a big room up the stair; there were  
 great heap o' us, for a' his servant wi' the  
 wives and bairns were at it, an' wi' had  
 sonsy supper I weel a' wat; wi' had roas-  
 ed beef, wi' twa three tauts puddings, ple-  
 ty o' hare soup, and a big plate covered w-  
 paste, and the maist part o' a calf beneath  
 it, I think they ca't it a veal gooselet; an-  
 after wi' had eaten till our wames were lik-  
 burst, we got as muckle toddy as we cou-  
 ca' in our skins and wan we were maist f-  
 we gaed to the barn, and got a chap wi' f-  
 dle to play to us, and then sic fun, I neve-  
 got the like o't; but waes me, a' on sudde-  
 wi' were in a hurley burley; ane o' the co-  
 ters wha had been takin a daunder by h-  
 lane, came rinin to us wi' his hair stann-

one end like as moun castles, and his  
 fast beatin' like a mill wheel, cryin that  
 had seen his auld mistress's ghost, he  
 na the words weel out o' his mouth  
 en a lad and his lass wha had been out  
 erting, cam' in wi' the same story; we  
 na stand to hear their story out, but  
 pit our sport, and gaed awa' to seek  
 ghost, but a' our seekin was needless,  
 there was nae appearance o' a ghost to  
 een. This didna ategither satisfy us;  
 had gaed awa' into the house again and be-  
 to the beddin': but we had na sae  
 ickle fun as we expeckit, for the story  
 the ghost had damp't a' our joy, how-  
 er, the stockin' was thrown, an' the  
 ple was putten to bed; but they hadna  
 en lang lien down when the auld man  
 ough he saw something in the room, he  
 na mistaen, for the ghost drew the cur-  
 us, and stared them baith in the face;  
 by my troth, they got up in a hurry,  
 and cam rinnin naked amang us, it put us  
 econd time in a unco flutter, but awa we  
 to the room to seek the ghost again, &  
 er a search we discovered the terrible



ghost below the bed, in the person of one  
of the men servants who dressed himself  
style as his late mistress.

The couple went to bed again, and  
a gude soon sleep till nine o'clock next  
morning; as far for us, there was naething  
o' sleep in ony o' our heads; and awa in  
the barn, and danced till our legs was like  
to fa' frae below us; like young buzzy  
her lad danced wi' her, but I was as light  
as ony o' them; and for as mair as I  
danced as light wi' Jock as the younger  
o' them; after the clock had stricken eight  
we began to speak about parting, and  
wi' hearty glee, bidden one another gude  
morning, we a took our different airts hame  
to get a refreshing—SEEM.

FINIS.